



7/14/08
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TOWN OF ACTON

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**Lauren S. Rosenzweig, Chairperson
Board of Selectmen**

July 14, 2008

DRAFT

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Director of Railroad Operations
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RE: Pedestrian crossing gates in Acton

Dear Sirs:

As the MBTA is expected to improve the railroad tracks through Acton sometime in the near future, we would like to officially request that these infrastructure improvements include pedestrian gates on one side of the road at each of the following four street crossings in Acton. These crossings include:

1. Parker Road
2. Martin Street (Pratt's Crossing)
3. Central Street (Richardson's Crossing)
4. Central Street (Hapsgood's Crossing)

Acton is a pedestrian friendly town with many commuters walking to and from the train station. Three of these crossings are within 1 1/4 miles of the train station and are used daily by commuters. The other is within 1/2 mile of 2 schools. Three of the crossings have sidewalks leading directly up to the tracks and then stopping abruptly making for a very

dangerous situation as people traverse into the street and have to contend with traffic. (The other street, Parker, does not currently have a sidewalk, but there have been numerous requests by residents to have one constructed).

We understand that you have already discussed Hapsgood's Crossing with Dore Hunter, our outgoing Selectman, and have agreed to provide a pedestrian gate as well as granted permission for us to construct a sidewalk across the tracks. These improvements are to coincide with the railroad track improvements. We thank you for your willingness to help improve pedestrian safety at our railroad crossings and would like to expand the scope of the plan to include the other three road crossings.

These improvements would not only improve a pleasant walk, they would significantly add to the safety of our citizens and your commuters. We respectfully submit this request for your review.

Best Regards

Lauren S. Rosenzweig, Chairperson
ACTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN